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PAGES 9 TO 16.

# THE JOURNAL.

MONDAY, JULY 6, 1896.—SIXTEEN PAGES.

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PAGES 9 TO 16.

## DID JAY GOULD PAY THIS WEDDING FEE?

Pastor Leighton Received \$1.25 for Marrying "a Couple from Canada."

Alleged Widow of the Wall Street Magnate Claims This Was the Important Ceremony.

BEGGAR PLAYS A PROMINENT PART.

By the Crippled Man Who Visited the Chaplain Parsonage in 1893 It is Hoped to Prove Mrs. Gould's Claim to the Gould Millions.

Tunkhannock, Pa., July 5.—The secrecy with which the evidence is being taken in the suit against the Gould heirs brought by Mrs. Sarah Ann Gould, who claims to be the widow of Jay Gould, was carefully observed here up to yesterday.

District Attorney F. P. Drake and Lawyer Henry Harding, the commission to take testimony, appointed by the Supreme Court, in New York, met on June 30 at the home of Rev. Nathan Leighton, in West Tunkhannock. Ex-Judge John F. Dillon and Ellihu Root, of New York City, represented the Gould heirs and Walter E. Ward, of Albany, and George S. Coleman, of New York, appeared for the plaintiff. The testimony of Rev. Nathan Leighton was as follows:

"I was licensed and ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1844 and my first charge after leaving the Theological Seminary at Auburn was at Moravia, N. Y. I was stationed as minister in charge of the Presbyterian Church at Champlain, Clinton County, N. Y., from November, 1850 to June, 1854, being the only Presbyterian minister there. I remained there during the years named, only coming to Pennsylvania when obliged by the condition of my daughter's eyes.

RECORD FOUND IN AN OLD DESK. "I was authorized to and did perform marriage ceremonies, but kept no record of such ceremonies and so affirmed before a local Magistrate at one time at the instance of Mrs. Cody. I then testified that I had made diligent search for such records and had failed to find any.

"But recently, within the past few months, my daughter in overhauling an old desk came across a little book. (The book was produced.) Every mark in that book is in my own handwriting. It contains a brief memorandum of the names of parties whom I married and the dates and the fees that I was paid. I have no recollection of making the record, but positively identify the memoranda as in my own handwriting."

Among these records was one of "a couple from Canada," whose names were not given and who were married by him in 1853, for which the record showed he received \$1.25. This is the marriage which the claimant claims was that of herself and Jay Gould. Rev. Mr. Leighton remembered a servant girl who was in his employ during the year 1853, who had remained one year, and he had married her to George Edisford. Her name was Mary Ann Shields. Witness did not remember that Miss Shields had been present at the wedding of "a couple from Canada," though she might have been.

At that time he kept two kind of marriage certificate blanks, one of which it was his fixed rule to fill out and give to each bride. The records of the marriages of kinds of these blanks was that some time the fee received would not warrant the giving of an expensive one. Witness had some of the blanks left, and one of them was produced and a copy made, and made a part of the testimony.

On cross-examination the witness said that Mrs. Cody, an aunt of "Buffalo Bill," had secured his affidavit and one of these certificates in blank.

REMEMBERED THE BEGGAR. Mary M. Leighton, the pastor's daughter, testified that she was born in 1847, and became blind when about six years of age. She recollected distinctly living with her parents at Champlain, and that her father was present at the performance of marriage ceremonies there, at which her father officiated. She remembered the domestic, Mary Ann Shields, and her marriage to George Edisford, as testified to by her father. Mr. Coleman, on behalf of the plaintiff, directed the attention of the witness to the visit made to the parsonage in 1893 of a crippled beggar. The witness described the beggar and spoke of his tenor voice. She recalled that it was in the winter, as her father had caused the snow to be cleared away out to an old well, that she met him play there.

The beggar incident gains importance because Mary Ann Shields, the servant girl, now Mrs. George Edisford, of Oriskany, Canada, is to testify in the case later on, and she fixes the dates and the parties by the visit of this crippled beggar.

WIVES MAY PICK POCKETS.

Magistrate Deuel Upholds Their Right to Plunder Those of Their Husbands.

Mary Redfield brought her five-year-old child into Centre Street Police Court yesterday and explained to Magistrate Deuel that her husband, William, was drunk most of the time, did not support her and her children and frequently abused her. The family reside at No. 39 Elm street.

"It's a lie, Your Honor," put in William from the dock. "She was drunk herself and shooting off fireworks in the street and making a show of herself. I took her off the street, that's all. I work steady. An' talk about my support! Her why, she dragged me jeans for \$12 yesterday morning. She can't deny it."

Magistrate Deuel said to the woman: "Did you take \$12 out of his pockets? Of course peacefully together."

Yes, Your Honor, I did, but I gave him \$3 back again and he got drunk and hit me, an' my arm's all black and blue."

Redfield was required to furnish a \$100 bond for good behavior, and that being supplied by her employer the family went out of court peacefully together.

DAILY CABLE CAR ACCIDENT.

Gerity Got Off Easy—Campbell's Probably Fatal Fall.

The daily accident on the cable road happened early yesterday morning. About 2 o'clock Peter J. Gerity, twenty-eight years old, of No. 146 East Forty-third street, was knocked down by a Third Avenue cable car at Seventeenth street. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital with a sprained right leg and a severe scalp wound.

A more serious and probably fatal accident happened on the Grand street horse car line. Seven-year-old John Campbell, of No. 549 First Avenue, with several other lads, were stealing a ride on car No. 393, when they fell off. Campbell received a fracture of the skull. He was taken to Gouverneur Hospital, where, it was said, his chances for recovery were slight.



Silvia and Serina Gerussi, Padrona Victims.

Two pretty children, who were coaxed by their grandmother to beg with a hand organ grinder.

## LITTLE VICTIMS OF PADRONA MARUCCIA.

Children Sent by Their Grandmother to Beg with an Organ Grinder.

Pretty Italian Girls Arrested by Agents of the Gerry Society.

HATED TO ASK ROUGH MEN FOR MONEY.

Their Father a Boss Mason, Who Earns \$150 a Month—Little Ones Played the Tambourine and Solicited Alms.

Mother Maruccia Forte is well known to the police and the officers of the Gerry Society as an old offender against the laws regulating the padrona system. She lives in the Italian colony around No. 153 Elizabeth street, and has been repeatedly arrested for sending little Italian children out to beg.

Driven to dire straits—not of poverty, for Mother Maruccia is far from poor—the habit-hardened old padrona coaxed her two pretty little granddaughters, Serina Gerussi, aged fifteen years, and Silvia Gerussi, aged twelve, into going forth, tamponed in hand, to follow the hand-organ of Giuseppe Colacello, to solicit alms.

The two little girls are daughters of Giuseppe Colacello, a stalwart, well-educated Italian, who dresses well and says he gets \$150 a month as a boss mason on one of the Speedway construction gangs.

The children, prettily dressed, were arrested by Captain Young, of the Elizabeth Street Station, and Agent Pissara, of the Gerry Society, at the corner of Mulberry and Worth streets, about noon on July 4, together with the organ grinder Giuseppe Colacello, who also resides at No. 153 Elizabeth street. Serina was playing a tambourine and little Silvia was dancing and collecting pennies.

When brought into court yesterday morning both the children were neatly dressed in white. Little Serina's lace cap was caught together low on her plump neck, and her pretty figure was faintly set off by a well-fitting silk waist. She is an exceptionally good looking girl, and a very bright one, and she told Magistrate Deuel the story of her grandmother's methods. Little Silvia, terrified, cried softly in a corner. Giuseppe Colacello, the children's father, was in court. He was clad in a summer suit of black and white check, which looked as if it came from a good tailor.

"We didn't want to go out with the organ," said Serina, "but grandmother coaxed us to. She sends out her own little girl, who says she is sixteen, but I know she is only fourteen. Our mother and our father never sent us out, and we have a good home. We would go all over with the organ, sometimes to Brooklyn."

"I hated to go around and collect the money, the men in the saloons and on the streets are so rough. Giuseppe took 50 cents of the money we got every day for the organ. The rest we divided—half for Giuseppe, half for Silvia and myself. We gave ours to grandmother. She gave us different dresses after we came home so the officers wouldn't know we were the same girls."

The father of the children said he didn't know of their travelling about and that he would not allow them to go out again. Agent Pissara explained that No. 153 Elizabeth street is a regular colony of organ grinders and padronas. The house is owned by a manufacturer of hand-organs, who rents them to peripatetic Italian "grinders" at 60 cents a day each. The agent said that the little Gerussi girls were frequently sent to Brooklyn and over into Jersey to keep out of the way of the society's agents, and that their costumes were changed to conceal their identity.

He said that he would arrest Mother Maruccia and both the parents of the children to-day.

Magistrate Deuel held Giuseppe Colacello in \$300 bonds for trial. The two little Gerussi girls were turned over to the Gerry Society's agent.

## HIS CURE A MIRACLE.

A Physician Examines Little George Francis Harrington, Who Touched the Relic of St. Anne.

Little George Francis Harrington, who was cured by the relic of St. Anne, received many visitors yesterday at his home, No. 502 West Forty-ninth street.

The boy used his legs even more freely than he did on Saturday. He still walks with a little stiffness in his step. The accident through which he became a victim of hip disease befell him three years ago. When he was just beginning to walk, he fell in effect taking up his experience in walking just where it terminated then.

When the boy's mother took him on a visit to his grandmother yesterday, two blocks away, unaided he ascended three flights of stairs. Among the boy's visitors yesterday was Dr. James Moran, who made a careful examination of him. "Accepting the mother's story—and there is no reason to doubt—I must consider the cure a miracle," said the doctor. "Pathology failed completely to accomplish it and though some persons may say it is the result of a condition of mind, I discredit the theory. If a person has nervous trouble there may be psychical conditions under which he or she is cured solely through the imagination. That's all right, but no condition of mind can render free and easy a case of stiffness and adhering tendons. In lieu of any other explanation I should say this is a faith cure pure and simple."

On Sunday an attempt is being made to stop the trolley cars from running Sunday.

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## BLUE LAWS REVIVED AND VILLAGERS BLUE.

Broker Johnston's Efforts to Reform Westfield, N. J., Enrages Its Residents.

Open Defiance of the Sunday Observance League's Order to Stop Cycling and Secular Work.

BUT THE CRUSADE WILL PROCEED.

Insulting Inscriptions Chalked Upon the Sidewalk in Front of the House of the Broker by His Opponents.

Broker Robert Johnston, who is a member of the Produce Exchange, and has offices at No. 60 New street, is meeting with opposition in his efforts to revive the blue laws of Westfield, N. J., where he lives. He has organized the Sunday Observance League in that town, and yesterday it was announced that an attempt would be made to stop bicycle riding, and prevent livery stable keepers, ice cream, soda men and others from doing business. If people did not go to church they must stay at home. No lounging on street corners would be tolerated.

It was expected that Broker Johnston's band of crusaders, with reinforcements from the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor Society, would have scouts, pickets and spies on duty yesterday. Although there were no scouts and no pickets, spies are believed to have been gathering information. Complaints will be made, but Justices Hart and Collins say they will not consider them.

The business men are defiant. Livery stable keepers, notably William H. Barton, A. E. Decker and W. L. Burtis, kept open as usual, notwithstanding they had received notice to close. The fizz of soda water was heard and the keyholes of tavern doors were not plugged with cotton. Only one man, Charles Mitchell, a barber, in Elm street, refused to admit patrons. But Robert Hostenstein, with total disregard for the league, boldly opened his flour and feed store for the first time on the holy day.

William H. Grogan, who conducts the North Avenue Hotel, did not turn away a single wayfarer. He is in the fight to stay.

Perhaps the bravest man in Westfield yesterday was George F. Marsh. He is a salesman for McKesson & Robbins, in this city. His potato patch had been neglected lately and the weeds were gradually smothering the plants, so he got down on his knees yesterday and pulled weeds. More than that, he built a chicken coop in his back yard. His friends are wondering what fearful punishment is in store for him when the league spies make their report.

It was learned that in addition to Broker Johnston's active promoters are Wilfred Woodruff, a florist; Oliver S. and Arthur Pierson, farmers; Leonard Venn, who didn't like his original name of Cohen and had it legally changed; E. L. Taylor and Samuel Burhans.

Opponents of the league have become resentful, even vindictive. This was shown to Broker Johnston yesterday when he arose to find that in the night the sidewalk in front of his house was covered with insulting inscriptions, all done in chalk. Among them were "Oh, Give Us a Rest!" "You Are Flying Too High," "Nice Reformers, You Are!" and "Why Don't You Hire a Hall?" These were all scrawled off early in the morning and so persons on their way to worship did not see them.

Cyrus P. Wilcox, who makes harness on week days and is an ex-Chief of the Fire Department, says Broker Johnston's attempt to enforce the blue laws will fail and will H. Barton declares that if his attempt was closed on Sunday the town might burn up. His horses draw the chemical engine and he holds the reins over them.

Martin H. Pickell, more familiarly known as the "Afraid" Constable, was non-committal.

In Plainfield an attempt is being made to stop the trolley cars from running Sunday.

## COULD MAKE THEM PRISONERS FOR LIFE.

Magistrate Simms Puts into Execution an Old Law Against Ex-Convicts.

A Man Once Convicted of Crime Might Be Kept Continually Behind Bars.

HARD LUCK OF THOMAS CASSIDY.

Happening in the Vicinity of a Crime, He Is Held in \$1,000 Bonds for Good Behavior for One Year.

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## RIOT ON A BALL FIELD.

Umpire Was Partial, Free Fight Followed and the Police Locked Up the Whole Crowd.

The "Yorkville Youthfuls" and the "Hell Gate Rooters" are the names of two East Side baseball clubs who went up to the Bronx River Park on the Fourth to have it out. They had previously played two games and each club had won one. Hence, Saturday's battle was to be for blood. The members of the two sides, with about twenty of their friends, drove up to the ball field in three wagons. Besides the human freight the vehicles bore five kegs of beer. Every time a sollicitous passenger noticed signs of heat exuding from the animals on the trip to the grounds they were stopped and the young men took advantage of the occasion to take a drink. By the time the game was called all were in a merry mood.

Oliver Clark, of Brooklyn, acted as umpire. At the first inning the "Hell Gate Rooters" took the lead. The "Yorkville Youthfuls" took the bat for the Yorkvilles at the beginning of the next inning. The umpire called a strike on him before he had got a good foothold. "That was no strike," yelled Isaac. "You heard wot I said an' it goes, see?" said the umpire.

"Yes, an' wese'll back yer up," said George Exler, catcher for the Hell Gates. Young Goldberg made a pass at Exler with his bat and hit him across the small of the back. The catcher went down with a yell in a heap and a free-for-all fight immediately ensued, during which Sergeant Kelly, in charge of the reserves of the Tremont Station, arrived and arrested the whole party.

They were taken to the Tremont Station, where Captain Price decided to lock up Goldstein, Joseph Ott, John Exler, Joseph Barrett, John Roth, Oliver Clark, Michael Riedel, John West and John McManus. They pleaded with Captain Price to be allowed to take their kegs of beer into the prison with them, but the Captain would not allow it. Most of the policemen around the station house warmly backed up the captain in that idea.

The prisoners were arraigned in the Morrisania Court yesterday. Goldberg was held without bail to await the result of Exler's injuries. The others were fined \$5 each.

THE COVENT GARDEN VENTURE

Mr. Graub's Partners Will Have a Silent Part in the Management of the Piece.

The announcement that Maurice Graub, of the firm of Abbey, Schofield & Graub, would probably be the director of grand opera at Covent Garden, London, next season, to succeed the late Sir Augustus Harris, created considerable comment in local theatrical circles yesterday. Julian Ralph's special cable to the Journal stated that Mr. Graub would be alone in the venture, though he had the sanction of the other members of the firm.

One of Henry E. Abbey's close friends said last evening that the recent financial difficulties of the firm precluded them from handling the business as a firm. It was understood, he said, that both of Mr. Graub's partners had an interest with him, though he alone is recognized as the manager.

Mr. Abbey is at present at Old Point Comfort, Va., recovering from his recent illness. One of his representatives said last night that negotiations for the Covent Garden had been in progress ever since Sir Augustus Harris's death. He said the contract had been practically closed.

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